Salisbury University
Nabb Research Center
for Delmarva History and Culture
Chesapeake Bay
DE MD VA

Shoreline

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November Exhibit: "And So It Grew: The Changing Landscape at Tony Tank Creek"

This month, the Nabb Research Center presents a new exhibit on the history of the Tony Tank Creek region in Salisbury. Over the past three centuries, the area has undergone many transformations. In 1678, the Eastern Shore Native people entered into an agreement with Lord Baltimore to establish seven Indian towns in the drainage basins of the Wicomico, Pocomoke and Nanticoke rivers. The Tundotank (Tundotenake) Indian town is known to have been located on the Tony Tank Creek, where it remained well into the 18th century. After the American Revolution, the land on the south side of Tony Tank Creek was confiscated as British property. In 1783, 61 1/4 acres of the land known as "Mill Lott" was sold to William Adams, who in turn sold it to Captain Robert Dashiell. A grist mill was erected by 1798 which processed wheat and corn. A granary to store the processed grains was also present, along with a small, one-story dwelling built starting in 1810. The demand for the wheat and corn of the Eastern Shore increased during the early 19th century, which made the mill site more prosperous; hence, the home was eventually replaced with a two-story, gable-fronted home accented with Federal woodwork. After the Civil War, as the railroad came down into the Delmarva region, the need for the mill gradually declined, as difficult, slow transport by water was required for its products. However, it remained in operation until the 1930s. A fire destroyed much of the mill in 1954. At that point the damaged structure was removed and 85 acres were sold to the Tony Tank Development Corporation by 1955. This land was subdivided and remains as a neighborhood today. To find out more about this fascinating parcel of Eastern Shore land, come and visit this month's exhibit. A chronology of the history of Tony Tank, as well as pictures, land plats and several Native artifacts will be presented to illustrate how this landscape changed over time. This exhibit is in conjunction with the Wednesday, November 9, Washburn Distinguished Lecture on Native people and in honor of Native-American History Month.

Tony Tank Mill donated by Julia A. "Betsy" H...

Living Gently on the Land: Eastern Shore Indians' Use Of Natural Resources

There has been a change in the venue location of the reception for Dr. Helen Rountree's Wednesday, November 9, lecture on Eastern Shore Native people. The lecture at 7 p.m. and the reception to follow will both be held in the Worcester Room of the Commons.

New Equipment Acquisition

The Nabb Research Center has a new microfilm and microfiche printer and scanner, courtesy of SU's Blackwell Library. Researchers can print, save-to-disc or even e-mail their scanned film and fiche images. One student recently commented, "it saves so much time ... I can even save pages on my own disk and then take them home and work on them on my own computer." Another researcher pointed out, "documents printed from the new machine are much easier to read compared to the past." The printer/scanner is also equipped with a tutorial session that guides new users through the loading, scanning and printing process. This feature is especially helpful for those who may have been accustomed to using the old microfilm machine.

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SAVE THE DATE OF JUNE 3, FOR OUR FUNDRAISER RUSTIC TALES AT EVENTIDE AT WATER'S EDGE 2006, WORCESTER COUNTY - BAYSIDE.

Archival Assistant Internships

This fall, the Nabb Research Center is pleased to welcome junior Kyle Schellenberg as the new archival assistant. We are also glad to welcome back Kaa Akpeng, who has returned to continue to fill the other assistant position.

Kyle Schellenberg and Kaa Akpeng

News Release From Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc.

Owners, heirs and descendants of burial site owners, performing routine and horticultural maintenance, no longer may be considered in violation of Maryland cemetery laws as a result of passage of House Bill 410 at the last legislative session according to James Trader, president, Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites, Inc., organized in 1992 in Howard County, MD.

The legislation changes, drafted by Trader as legislative chairman, offered two proposed amendments to Title 10, Section 404 of the Criminal Law Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

Legislative sponsors were Delegates Carol S. Petzold, K. Bennett Bozman, Norman H. Conway and Samuel I. Rosenberg. Following testimony at hearings before judiciary committees of the House and Senate and receipt of a favorable recommendation, the draft legislation was approved by members of the legislature by floor vote, was signed on April 26, 2005, by Governor Ehrlich and other legislative officials, and became effective on October 1, 2005.

The amendments to Title 10 provide, first, that removal of a funerary object, building, wall, fence, railing or other object installed for the use, protection or ornamentation of a cemetery or burial site for normal repair or replacement at the request of or with the permission of heirs or descendants of the deceased, or the owner and manager of the cemetery or burial site is not prohibited, and secondly, that normal maintenance of a cemetery or burial site, including trimming of trees and shrubs, removal of weeds or noxious growths, grass cutting, or other routine care and maintenance are not prohibited.

Volunteer Carolyn Ballou and visitor Tim Baker

Passages

Tim Baker, pictured from the October *Shoreline*, has recently passed away. He visited the Nabb Research Center in August to research his Baker ancestry.